

ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE HEALTH
OF THE
BOROUGH OF NEWPORT
ISLE OF WIGHT

FOR THE YEAR 1920.

BY
STANLEY FOSTER, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., Ed.,
Medical Officer of Health,
AND
ALFRED F. HART, Certd. Royal San. Inst.,
Certd. Meat and Food Inspector,
Borough Sanitary Inspector.

PRESENTED TO THE CORPORATION
THROUGH THEIR COMMITTEE ON
16th MAY, 1921.

ISLE OF WIGHT:
THE COUNTY PRESS, 29 HIGH STREET, NEWPORT.

SANITARY COMMITTEE.

THE MAYOR (MR. COUNCILLOR E. MUNDEN).

MR. COUNCILLOR QUINTON (*Chairman*).

„	„	COX.
„	„	GUNNER.
„	„	HILLS (MAJOR).
„	„	LANDON.
„	„	PECK.
„	ALDERMAN	RUGG.
„	COUNCILLOR	SHEPARD.
„	„	STEEL.
„	„	WADHAM.
„	„	WRAY.
MRS.	,	CHANDLER.

Town Clerk : MR. T. ROSS PRATT.

Medical Officer of Health :

STANLEY FOSTER, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., ED.

Sanitary Inspector :

ALFRED F. HART.

*To His Worship the Mayor and to the Aldermen and
Councillors of the Borough of Newport,
Isle of Wight.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADY, AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report for the ninth year on the Health of the Borough. As last year, I report fully in the form of order as requested by the Ministry of Health, and I am pleased to state that the health of the Borough still maintains an excellent standard. I wish to draw your attention to the higher birth rate this year, although there is a slight increase in the death rate, which was exceptionally low last year. There was, however, for the year an increase in proportion of births over deaths, being 150, as compared with 63 last year.

There was a slight epidemic of Diphtheria in the early part of the year. I am very pleased, however, to be able to report that, owing to every precaution being taken, all known contacts isolated, and, where possible, injected with Anti-Diphtheretic Serum, no fatal results occurred, and so was very quickly stamped out.

Influenza only claimed 2 victims, as compared with 6 last year.

There were no cases of Small-pox or of Typhoid Fever. I would here like to point out to you the fact of there being no case of Small-pox should be a definite encouragement to universal vaccination rather than as an excuse for exemption, which is too often availed of by parents.

There were 16 cases of Scarlet Fever, 2 of which proved fatal.

There was 1 case of Encephalitis Lethargica, which proved fatal.

With regard to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, although all necessary and known precautions have been taken to lessen the infection and mortality of this dreadful disease, I regret to have to state it is far from the decrease that I should expect to see, there being 13 cases this year, as compared with 11·2 cases for the average of the last five years.

There is one important matter which pleases me to comment upon—this is the Mortuary. I do really wish to state that I feel the thanks of the medical men and the general public are due to the Committee for the provision of a long felt want.

As for Infant Mortality, this toll on baby life is still a higher percentage than it ought to be, but I have great hopes that in the near future this will be greatly lessened, as there now is a proper organised Child Welfare Centre in the town, which is attended weekly by a large number of Mothers, who bring their Babies and receive freely all necessary advice from the Doctor in attendance and the District Nurses. The greatest encouragement should be given to mothers to attend regularly this great work of Child Welfare.

I also wish to record the services of the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Hart, who, notwithstanding his short term of office in the Borough, has shown himself a painstaking and capable man.

I wish again to place on record my grateful appreciation of the courtesy and consideration always shown me by the Members of the Committee.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Lady, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

S. FOSTER,

BOROUGH OF NEWPORT.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1920.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.—The census for 1911 was 11,155. The total estimated population to the middle of this year is 11,510.

During the year the actual number of deaths occurring in the Borough was 141. The following deaths, which occurred in Institutions, &c., outside the Borough, must be added to this, viz.: Forest House 10, Asylum 7, County Hospital 5, Hampstead General Hospital 1, Wimborne Cottage Hospital 1, the Welsh Hospital 1, Miniature Rifle Range, Carisbrooke, 1, Whippingham, in hay field, 1, a total of 27. Thus, the corrected number of deaths is 168. The total number of births for the year is 309, making an excess of 141 of births over deaths.

The net deaths of civilians in the year amounted to 168—83 males, 85 females. The population for a death rate, 11,510 being the figure supplied by the Registrar General, being a crude death-rate for Newport of 14·50 per 1000, which is a slightly higher death rate than England and Wales of 12·4, the Newport rate being also slightly higher than last year.

There were 309 births in the year—153 males and 156 females, 144 boys and 148 girls being legitimate, 9 boys and 8 girls being illegitimate.

This gives a birth rate on a population of 11,510 (the figure as supplied by the Registrar General) of 26.75 per 1000, compared with a birth rate for England and Wales of 25.4 per 1000.

Building operations have increased considerably during the year, the Corporation accounting for the erection of 28 houses under the Government aided Housing Scheme on the site of Trafalgar Road, at the upper end of the Town, and private enterprise accounting for only a very small number.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.—The Borough, which is about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles square, and comprises 504 acres, is situated about the centre of the Island, and is well drained by the River Medina, which flows through it, being situated in a valley almost entirely surrounded with chalk downs. It enjoys an equable climate, and is well protected from cold winds. The subsoil is of a varied character, part being clay and part chalk, while a rich vein of gravel exists in the hills on the south, which are known as St. George's Down.

The Town is well drained and lighted, and has a good water supply, the property of the Corporation.

GENERAL CONDITIONS AND POPULATION.

Newport is the Capital of the Island, and the Business Centre. The Ryde, Newport, and Cowes Railway, with its branch line, converge here, also making Newport its centre. The greater portion of the Island shipping trade is done at the Quay, which has been extended to meet the increasing trade. Here I might mention the mud, which is an accumulation of years, is being removed to make a wider channel for incoming vessels.

A weekly Cattle Market is held on Tuesdays, bringing in farmers and others from all surrounding districts, notwithstanding the number of traders from the mainland. The Corn Market is carried on at the Corn Exchange on Saturdays, and is well patronised.

There is no particular industry in Newport. Certainly a large brewery and railworks, also one or two flour mills, and outside the Borough are Parkhurst Prison and Barracks, where the Royal Ulster Regiment is stationed. There are the Cement Works on the River Medina, also there are one or two brikyards. Many of those employed in these places have their residence in Newport.

The resident population by the last census was 11,155. There is no over crowding, the average being not over four persons per house, and the annual report shows the Birth and Death Rates compare well with other towns of a similar character.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.—Newport is supplied with a system of constant pressure of water. The supply originates from wells and adits at Idlecombe, and gravitates to the Waterworks at Carisbrooke, being pumped thence to reservoirs at Alvington, from which it is distributed through cast-iron pipes to the various parts of the town.

It is pure and wholesome, and of exceedingly good quality, as is shown by the latest analysis hereto appended.

The Clinical Research Association, Limited,
Watergate House,
York Buildings,
Adelphi,
London, W.C.
23rd June, 1920.

To the Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Newport, I.W.

The sample of water collected on the 18-6-20, and received here on the 19-6-20, has been examined, and

I have been instructed to forward the following report thereon :—

RESULTS.

	(1) Chemical.	Parts per 100,000	Grains per gallon
Total Solids (dried at 120° C)	...	28·0	19·6
Combined Chlorine	...	3·10	2·17
Equivalent to Na. Cl.	...	5·12	3·58
Nitrie nitrogen	...	0·36	0·25
Nitrous nitrogen	...	Nil.	Nil.
Ammoniacal nitrogen	...	0·0003	0·0002
Albumenoid nitrogen	...	Traces	Traces
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27° C		0·006	0·004
Lead or Copper	...	Nil.	Nil.
Temporary Hardness (Equivalent to Ca.Co. 3)	...	18·0	12·6
Permanent Hardness	...	3·0	2·1
Total Hardness	...	21·0	14·7

(2) Bacterial (Culture and Microscopical).

Average number of organisms produc-		
ing visible colonies on Gelatine		
plates, incubated at 20-22 C. for		
three days	...	...
		42 per c.c.
Average number of organisms produc-		
ing visible colonies on agar plates,		
incubated at 37·5 C. for two days		7 per c.c.
B. Coli	...	Not found in 100 c.c.
Streptococci	...	Not found in 30 c.e.
B. Enteriditis Sporogenes	...	Not found in 100 c.e.

REMARKS.—The results show this water to be of *excellent* quality.

(Signed) W. J. CURRY,
Secretary.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—The river-bed adjacent to the Quay and its upper reaches are kept in a fairly cleanly condition, and accumulations of mud removed periodically. Part of the river wall at Little London has been completed, reclaiming land for extension of the Quay, and confining the river to its proper channel. There has been no pollution of the river calling for attention.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—1999 feet of 4in. or 6in. glazed stoneware pipe drain has been laid in place of old defective drains.

I gather from the Surveyor that no difficulty has been experienced with the Sewage system, and everything is working satisfactorily.

The whole of the Sewerage gravitates to the Works at the Town Quay, where it is chemically treated, the sludge being extracted and pressed and sold for manure, the effluent passing into the river.

The whole sewerage system is automatically flushed by cisterns fixed at high levels, and all the modern sewers are ventilated by upcast shafts, no complaints having been received as to the Sewers during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—The whole of the accommodation in the Borough is on the water carriage system. A considerable number of the above are hand flushed, but these are gradually being supplied with flushing cisterns, a very necessary arrangement if the closets are to be kept in proper sanitary order.

SCAVENGING.—Formerly this work was carried out by contract, the refuse being carted outside the Borough, and deposited on farms, and ploughed into the land. The Corporation now carry out this work, employing their own labour, the refuse being taken to the refuse destructor on the Town Quay and incinerated, a great improvement on the former method, but unfortunately, owing to the

several complaints received from the inhabitants in the near vicinity of a continued nuisance caused by smoke and dust deposit, the destruction by this means has been discontinued. The refuse is now being earted and deposited at dumps at Little London and White Pit Lane. This is likely to cause a further nuisance in the near future, as rats have been seen on the dumps, and are likely to accumulate.

There are only a small number of fixed ashpits in the Borough, the majority of the premises using buckets and boxes ; in fact, anything that will accommodate refuse. I venture to suggest that in the interests of public health owners of property should be requested to provide proper impervious vessels with closely fitting covers, so as to prevent the matter being blown about the streets, also to prevent animals overhauling and scattering the matter about the highway.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Number of Inspections during the year	...	...	1517
Number of Statutory Noticees served	...	...	6
Number of Informal Notices served	...	...	124
Number of Nuisances found	...	...	160
Number of Nuisances abated	...	...	156

For further details of this work see Sanitary Inspector's Report.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.—Markets : The Cattle Market is still held weekly in St. James's Square, and continues in a flourishing condition, and is a valuable asset to the trade of the town. All is done that is possible to reduce any attendant nuisance to a minimum, namely, it is thoroughly cleansed and disinfected, and the manure and garbage removed immediately, the Market Place being left in as wholesome a manner as possible.

The Market has not been closed for any outbreak of Foot-and-Mouth Disease during the year.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—There is only one Common Lodging-House registered in the Borough ; this has been regularly inspected and found to be conducted in good order.

PIGGERIES AND STABLES.—These have been frequently visited, and the periodical removal of manure and keeping of the premises in sanitary order has been on the whole well observed.

MORTUARY.—I really must remark on the progress that is being made. I feel that the Members of the Corporation will see with me that the time has now arrived for them to be unanimous for the provision of such an asset.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—The Public Schools are five in number, viz. :—3 Elementary, under the control of the Borough Education Authority ; 1 Higher Grade School, under the County Education Authority ; the other, the Grammar School, which is now closed.

The buildings are commodious, light, airy, and the sanitary accommodation is ample and the fittings up to date.

The Private Schools are few in number, and call for no special comment.

Notices *re* exclusion of contacts after infectious disease are sent to all the schools, and lists are received from the head-masters and head-mistresses of each school as to the number of children not attending school owing to illness, and nature of same.

During February and March a slight epidemic of Diphtheria was prevalent. Six cases were isolated at home, and 24 cases being admitted to the Isolation Hospital, the most stringent disinfecting having been carried out in each case.

I am pleased to record the co-operation of the Schools Medical Officer in all matters relating to Public Health Administration in the Schools.

FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.—All Dairies, Cow-sheds, and Milk-shops have been inspected and found to be kept in good order and sanitary condition.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—These have the attention and are under the more immediate supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. Some have been in existence a great number of years, and special attention is paid to the structural state of the floors and walls, so as to secure their being impervious, and means of ventilation provided. Mr. Hart informs me that the drainage is kept in good order, the lime-washing and general cleanliness well looked after, and the water supply is pure and ample.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.—Mr. Hart, who possesses the certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods, continues to execute these duties. On several occasions I have visited the slaughter-houses with him and inspected various carcasses and viscera, and legal proceedings were taken in one instance with respect to unsound food.

Particulars of the carcasses, &c., examined and destroyed, or so utilised as to prevent them from being used for human consumption, are given later, under the heading Diseased and Unsound Food Destroyed.

BAKEHOUSES.—These are all under the personal supervision of the Medical Officer of Health, and the regulations as to lime-washing and cleanliness are well observed. There are no underground bakehouses in the Borough, all being on the ground floor. There is little or no difficulty experienced in providing light and ventilation, and each bakehouse is provided with a separate water supply. The total number in use at the close of the year was 17, and, with but one or two exceptions, all are retail, and combine the bread and confectionery branches.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table shows the number of cases of Infectious Disease notified during 1920, and the tabulated ages at which they occurred. It also includes the Tuberculosis Notifications :—

TABLE V.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1920.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.								North Ward.	South Ward.	Total Cases Removed to Hospital.			
	At Ages—Years.													
	At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 & up- wards.						
Small-pox ...														
Cholera (C) Plague (P)														
Diphtheria (includ- ing Membranous Croup) ...	30		4	16	5	4	1		10	20	24			
Erysipelas ...	4					2	2		3	1				
Scarlet Fever ...	16		2	11		3			11	5	15			
Typhus Fever ...														
Enteric Fever ...														
Relapsing Fever (R), Continued Fever (C) ...														
Puerperal Fever ...														
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis														
Poliomyelitis ...														
Ophthalmia Neonatorum														
Chicken-pox ...														
Encephalitis Lethargica 1						1								
Malaria														
Pneumonia ...														
Dysentery ...														
Trench Fever ...														
Acute Polio- encephalitis														
Measles														
Pulmonary Tuberculosis 13						8	4	1		7	6			
Other forms of Tuberculosis 7				1	1	4	1			3	4			
Totals ...	71		6	28	15	17	5		34	36	40			

SMALL POX.—There were no cases reported in the Borough during the year.

DIPHTHERIA.—There were 30 cases notified, as against 24 of last year. 24 of these cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital, Fairlee, stringent precautions being applied in the way of fumigation, &c.

TYPHOID.—There were no cases reported in the Borough during the year.

SCARLET FEVER.—There were 16 cases notified, as against no cases last year.

INFLUENZA.—This is not notifiable, as last year.

CHICKEN POX.—This also is not notifiable, as last year, but I might mention there have been 39 cases notified by head-masters and head-mistresses of the various schools.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.—There was one case reported in the Borough during the year, proving fatal.

ACUTE PNEUMONIA (PRIMARY AND INFLUENZAL), MALARIA, DYSENTERY, AND TRENCH FEVER.—These diseases were made notifiable during last year, no cases being notified in the Borough during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.—This disease was made notifiable during 1912, and 20 cases have been notified during the year. Of these 13 were cases of Tuberculosis of the Lungs; of the remaining seven cases the disease attacked other parts of the body, to the exclusion of the lungs.

Visits were paid to the homes of those notified under the Regulations, and Leaflets of Instructions and Spitting Bottles were provided where necessary, notes being made as to family and personal history, and we now have knowledge of all diagnosed cases of Tuberculosis in the district. These precautions go a long way to lessen the infection of this complaint. Disinfection was also performed after death or removal in a good many instances.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

This work is carried out by the County Council. The Corn Exchange is the centre for this Borough, and admirable accommodation is provided for Mothers, Doctor, and Nurses, every advice being obtainable for the welfare of the children, and is open on Wednesday afternoons from 2.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISTRICT.

Mr. Hart was appointed in June last as Inspector of Nuisances, Meat, and Food, and Housing Inspector, succeeding Mr. Hudson on his taking up another appointment on the mainland.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.—All cases receive immediate attention, and are removed without delay. Patients and their friends speak broadly of the great courtesy and careful attention they receive at the hands of the resident and visiting staff. The Hospital has proved sufficient and adequate in every way.

Isolation Hospital, Fairlee, for Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Typhoid patients, under the management of the Isle of Wight Joint Hospital Board.

All specimens for Clinical and Bacteriological examination are sent to the Clinical Research Association, London.

Specimens examined for Diphtheria, 25.

Samples of Milk examined, 1.

ADMINISTRATION OF LOCAL ACTS OR GENERAL ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

The following Acts Amendment Act, 1890, Parts 2, 3, and 5 :—

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Private Street Works Act, 1892.

Appointment of Overseer and Assistant Overseer.

Public Health Act Amendment Act, 1907—

Part II.—Section 25, 26, and 33,

Part III.—Seetions 34 to 38, 45 to 47, and 51.

Part IV.

Part VII.—Section 86.

The Baths and Wash-Houses Aet, 1846-1899.

HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS, 1910 (SEPTEMBER 2ND).

The number of Dwelling Houses inspeeted was 110.

The number of Dwelling Houses whieh, on inspeetion, were eonsidered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation, 1.

The number of representations made by the Local Authority with a view to making of Closing Orders, 1.

The number of Closing Orders made, 1.

The number of Dwelling Houses the defects in which were remedied without making Closing Orders, 51.

The number of Dwelling Houses demolished after the making of Demolition Orders was 1.

The general eharaeter of the defects found to exist were the usual kind, e.g., defective drains, damp rooms, defective floors and roofs, as will be seen from the Sanitary Inspector's detailed report.

TABLE I.
VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1920 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.			TRANSFERABLE DEATHS			NET DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.		
	Net.		Number	Rate		Number	Rate		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
	Uncorrected Number	Corrected Number		Rate	Rate		Rate	Rate	Number	Rate per 1000 Net Births.	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1915	10,881	228	231	20·5	174	15·9	3	*32	31	134·1	202	18·5
1916	†	251	253	21·8	104	9·7	2	41	11	43·4	*143	13·4
1917	‡	*223	223	18·7	112	10·5	—	29	8	35·8	141	13·2
1918	§	204	204	16·4	139	12·5	—	33	11	53·9	172	15·5
1919	||	217	217	18·6	119	10·3	—	35	14	64·5	154	13·3
1920	§	309	309	26·75	141	12·25	—	27	17	72·7	168	14·5

Total population at all ages 11,155
 Number of inhabited houses 2,726
 Average number of persons per house 4
 Area of District in acres (land and inland water) * 504 acres.

[†] For birth-rate, 11,585; for death-rate, 10,648.
[‡] 11,875;
[§] 12,425;
^{||} 11,070;
^{||} 11,510.

* Excluding military deaths.

[†] 11,653.
[‡] 11,090.
[§] 11,531.
^{||} 11,510.

TABLE II.

	Causes of Death.			Males.	Females.
	ALL CAUSES (Civilians only).			65	76
1	Enteric Fever	...	...	...	—
2	Small Pox	...	...	—	—
3	Measles	...	...	—	1
4	Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	1	2
6	Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	—	—
7	Influenza	...	...	2	—
8	Erysipelas	...	...	—	—
9	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	9	7
10	Tubercular Meningitis	...	...	—	—
11	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	—	2
12	Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	10	12
13	Rheumatic Fever	...	...	—	—
14	Meningitis	...	...	—	2
15	Organic Heart Disease	...	...	8	9
16	Bronchitis	...	...	5	9
17	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	1	2
18	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	—	1
19	Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years)	...	...	1	1
20	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	—	—
21	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	—	1
21a	Alcoholism	...	...	—	—
22	Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	...	—	—
23	Puerperal Fever	...	...	—	—
24	Parturition, apart from Puerperal Fever	...	...	—	—
25	Congenital Debility, &c.	...	...	3	3
26	Violence, apart from Suicide	...	...	3	—
27	Suicide	...	...	—	1
28	Other Defined Diseases	...	...	22	23
29	Causes Ill-Defined or Unknown	...	...	—	—
Special Causes (included above)			...	...
	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	—	—
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—
	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	—	1
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age			...	5	11
Total Births	...	...	...	153	156
Legitimate	...	...	...	144	148
Illegitimate	...	...	...	9	8
POPULATION FOR DEATH-RATE			...	) 11,510.	
POPULATION FOR BIRTH-RATE			...		

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Health Department,
Borough Offices,
38 Quay Street,
Newport, I.W.

*To His Worship the Mayor, and to the Aldermen and
Councillors of the Borough of Newport, I.W.*

LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith submit to you a report of the work done by my predecessor and myself in connection with the Abatement and Suppression of Nuisances during the year 1920.

The total number of inspections made during the year was 1517. On 170 of the premises visited, nuisances to the number of 160 were discovered. The work carried out includes House Inspection, Inspection of Slaughter-houses, Bakehouses, Cow-sheds, Work-places and Home-workers' premises, Common Lodging-Houses, Schools, Stables, and Disinfection of Rooms and Clothing after Infectious Disease. Wherever insanitary conditions were found to exist such action as was necessary for their removal or abatement was immediately taken, communication with the owner or agent being made upon the discovery of any sanitary defects, and particulars supplied of the works necessary to satisfactorily remedy the same.

During the year 74 complaints were received alleging the existence of a nuisance, several of the communications being anonymous. All were duly investigated, and, where found necessary, steps were taken for the abatement of the Nuisance.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE DURING THE YEAR.

Number of houses inspected under the Housing Town Planning Act, &c.	91
„ „ Re-inspections of Houses and Premises	749
„ „ Miscellaneous Visits	643
„ „ Visits to Slaughter-houses	807
„ „ Visits to Food-shops	81
„ „ Visits to Cow-sheds and Milk-shops ...	28
„ „ Visits to Bakehouses	50
„ „ Visits to Factories	34
„ „ Visits to Work-shops	20
„ „ Visits to Home-workers' Premises ...	14
„ „ Visits to Schools	13
„ „ Visits to Stables and Piggeries ...	43
„ „ Visits to Common Lodging-houses ...	11
„ „ Visits <i>re</i> Cases of Infectious Disease	99
„ „ Visits to Cinema Theatres	14

NOTICES SERVED.

122 Notices were served to abate the nuisances found, these being of a preliminary nature or in the form of a letter. In 6 instances it was necessary to serve Statutory Notices, which resulted in the nuisance being satisfactorily abated.

DETAILS OF OPERATIONS CARRIED OUT FOR THE ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

DRAINS.

New drains (length in feet)	1999
No. of Stoneware Gullies fixed	28
„ „ Ventilating Shafts	6
„ „ Inspection Chambers	24
„ „ Fresh Air Inlets	7
„ „ Fresh Air Inlets Repaired	2
„ „ Intercepting Traps	12
„ „ New Connections to Sewer	5
„ „ Old Brick and Masonry Drains removed	2

No. of Drains Unstopped	...	...	...	26
„ „ Smoke Tests applied to drains and Soil Pipes	...	...	...	85
„ „ Water Tests Applied to Drains and Soil Pipes	...	...	...	19

WATER CLOSETS.

New Water Closets built	...	...	...	5
New Pedestal W.C. Pans	...	...	...	5
New Pans in W.C.'s	...	...	...	16
New Traps in W.C.'s	...	...	...	18
Water Closets repaired	...	...	...	9
Water Closets unstopped	...	...	...	12
Flushing Cisterns fixed to Water Closets	...	...	...	2
Flushing Cisterns repaired	...	...	...	2

SOIL AND WASTE PIPES.

New Soil Pipes fixed	...	...	...	...	2
Waste Pipes trapped and disconnected	...	...	...	...	4

MISCELLANEOUS.

New Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	8
New Sink Wastes	...	...	...	...	9
New Lavatory Basins	...	...	...	...	1
House Roofs repaired	...	....	...	...	20
Accumulations of Refuse and Manure removed					6
Yards paved or repaved	...	...	...	...	8
Houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	1
Rain Water Spouts disconnected from Sewer...					2
New Urinals built	...	...	...	...	1
Baths fitted	...	...	...	...	3
Water laid on to Urinals	...	...	...	...	1
Wash-houses repaired	...	...	...	...	9
Slaughter-houses repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Animals so kept	...	...	...	...	1

Bakehouses cleansed and limewashed (twice yearly)	17
Slaughter-houses cleansed and limewashed (4 times yearly)	12
Cow-sheds and Dairies cleansed and lime-washed (twice yearly)	20

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.

99 visits were made in connection with the cases of Infectious Disease which occurred in the Borough during the year in order to make the necessary inquiries and to carry out the work of disinfection. 63 rooms in various houses were fumigated by means of formalin and carbolic acid, and in a few instances with sulphur, after the following cases.

Small Pox	0
Diphtheria	30
Tuberculosis	19
Enteric Fever	0
Pneumonia	3
Cancer	4
Measles	4
Other Cases	4
<hr/>	
	63

When cases are removed to the Isolation Hospital all bedding and other articles liable to retain infection are removed and steam disinfected at the Hospital. Disinfectants are supplied free when necessary during infectious illness.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

There are 13 slaughter-houses at present in use in the Borough. Nine are licensed annually and the remainder of four are registered, for which no annual licence is required.

807 visits have been made to slaughter-houses. This work takes up a considerable amount of time, and for the

Inspection to be of any real value visits must be made at the actual time of slaughtering, before the carcasses and organs are removed from the slaughter-house. Therefore the necessity of a Public Abattoir, where all animals could be inspected before slaughter and observations taken.

With regard to the diseases affecting the animals slaughtered, Tuberculosis has predominated, 22 carcasses being wholly affected and 38 parts of carcasses partly affected. As the majority of these were dairy cows and had been milked practically up to the time of slaughter, it is obvious that a veterinary inspection of all dairy cows should be enforced. The principal diseases affecting the organs and necessitating their destruction have been local Tuberculosis, Actinomycosis, Echinococcus, Distomum Hepaticum, Strongilus, Tumours, Cancer, Peritonitis, Dropsy, Necrosis, Abscess, and Congestion. There were three cases of Swine Fever.

A large portion of unfit foodstuffs, if not diseased, is used for the feeding of pigs.

It was necessary in two instances to obtain a Magistrates' Order for the destruction of diseased and unsound food, legal proceedings being taken in one instance.

The Bye-Laws relating to the periodical limewashing of the slaughter-house walls, the removal of garbage, offal, skins, &c., have, on the whole, been well observed.

DRESSED CARCASSES EXAMINED.

Pigs	...	...	...	3242
Sheep	...	...	...	2266
Beasts		...	...	388
Calves	...	...	...	353
				6249

DISEASED OR UNSOUND FOOD DESTROYED.

		Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Carcasses of Beef, 22,	Weight	3	3	0	4
„ „ Sheep, 10,	Weight		3	0	0
„ „ Calves, 2,	Weight		1	0	8
„ „ Pigs, 15,	Weight		19	1	8
„ „ Pigs, 3, (Swine Fever)			4	3	8
Other Organs ...	...	16		3	14
Bacon ...	...			3	22
Tin Goods ...	...			2	27
<hr/>					
Total Weight		5	9	3	17
<hr/>					

DAIRIES, COW-SHEDS, AND MILK-SHOPS.

Under the Dairies, Cow-sheds, and Milk-shops Orders, cow-keepers and purveyors of milk are required to be registered by the Town Council.

At present there are upon the register 19 Dairies and 10 Cow-sheds. These have been inspected, a total of 28 visits having been made. The regulations with regard to limewashing and cleansing have been carried out satisfactorily.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

There is only one Common Lodging-House in the Borough. This is situated in South Street. 11 visits have been made during the year, and the premises found to be well conducted.

CINEMA THEATRES.

There are 2 Cinema Theatres in the Borough. The Ministry of Health having issued orders for these premises to be periodically inspected, 14 visits have been made during the year.

HOUSE DRAINAGE.

A considerable amount of time is devoted to the detection of faulty drains and in supervising their repair or renewal. A good deal of this work is usually the result of house inspections. A number, however, are the outcome of complaints as to nuisances existing at houses, the investigation of which frequently leads to the re-laying of house drains.

Altogether my predecessor and myself have supervised the laying of 1999 feet of stoneware pipe drains, also the fixing of 12 intercepting traps, 28 stoneware gully traps, and 24 inspection chambers. In connection with this work 85 smoke tests and 19 water tests were applied to the drains.

In addition to the above the whole of the drainage of the Housing Scheme has been carried out under my personal supervision.

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909-1919.

TABULATED STATEMENT OF HOUSES DEALT WITH DURING THE YEAR 1920.

Number of Dwelling Houses Inspected	91
,, .. such Houses considered unfit for human habitation	1
.. .. representations made to Local Authority	1
.. .. Closing Orders made by Local Authority	1
.. .. Dwelling Houses, the defects in which were remedied without closing orders	51
.. .. Dwelling Houses made fit for habitation after Closing Orders... ...	0
.. .. Demolition Orders made	1
.. .. Dwelling Houses under repair... ...	14

GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DEFECTS FOUND.

- (1) Defective Drainage.
- (2) Lack of proper W.C. accommodation.
- (3) Damp and Dark Rooms.
- (4) Dirty Walls and Ceilings, Defective Floors. Walls,
Roofs, &c.
- (5) Insufficient Ventilation.
- (6) Defective Windows.

CONCLUSION.

In addition to the matters already set out, a considerable amount of time is of necessity taken up in keeping various registers and records, in clerical work, in interviewing owners or agents of property, and other administrative work, which cannot well be tabulated.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. F. HART,

BOROUGH SANITARY INSPECTOR.

